TRACER

McHENRY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
(An Illinois Not-For-Profit Corp)
6422 Main St., Union, Ill. 60180
Telephone: 815 923-2267

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Vol. I, No. 1 Quarterly Newsletter May 1974

ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING - May 19, 1974 - 2 P. M.
at
McHenry County Historical Museum - Union, Illinois

Initial Opening

Due to many tasks confronting the society in settling in its new museum, its leadership regrets the failure to open on its Tenth Anniversary last year. However due to the ruling of the State Fire Marshall when he was here on Friday, April 12, 1974, we cannot open to the public at this time. Our meeting on May 19, 1974 will therefore be opened to members only.

Our speaker will be Dr. Stuart Streuver, Director of the Koster Expedition, Professor of Anthropology at Northwestern University and Chairman of the Foundation for Illinois Archeology. He will tell about the work at the Koster Site and also the complete report of their findings in McHenry County last summer, when a crew of workers was sent here to interview local residents and examine certain areas which might provide the same information as the Koster Site has.

Progress on Museum Building

With hired, professional workman and volunteer help, the physical aspects of the museum are slowly but surely getting into order. The custodial apartment is ready for occupancy, the museum's main entrance has been painted, exterior doors and windows attended to and a security system soon will be installed in the museum as a donation by the AAA Security Company of Crystal Lake.

Actual museum work has been proceeding slowly due to the size of the Exhibit Hall. However the following volunteers have been contributing their considerable talents, time and efforts in setting the drugstore display, preparing cases and readying other areas and equipment for artifact displays for the Initial Opening.

Cary - Ramona Martin

Crystal Lake - Shuji Kimura
Alvin Maidek
Sandy Walkup
Jean Ingram

Elgin - Chester Nelson
Chester's daughter

Harvard - Thresile Guhrke
Myrtle Pagles

Huntley - Henry Marlowe
William (Pat) Williams
Margaret Conley
Frances Crowley
Sue Moylan

Hebron - Alice Bailey
Frances Bailey

Marengo - Otis Cripe
Robert Hansen
Richard Mikyska
Jerry Rath
Alice Colver
Ruth Cripe
Leona Hartmann
Betty Oberg

McHenry - Clyde Blackwell
Stephen Fike
Gregory Lofgren
Mrs. Stephen Fike

Richmond - Dick Richardson
Lavern Whiting

Union - Joan Mackeben
Dorothy Mattingly
Dorothy Northrop
Doris Pierce

Wonder Lake - Fred Sells

Woodstock - Jack Satorius
Everett Thomas
Robert Cosman
David Nickels
Gary Nickels
Alice Clark
Leta Clark
Dorothy McEachren
Agnes Thomsen
Bertha Tammeus

Last, but not least -

Marengo-Union
Rotary Club

You can see which areas of our county are represented, but we could use many more volunteers, even if only for a couple of hours at a time. Call museum and volunteer - 923 2267. If no answer dial 923 4105.

Membership Dues and Donations

Your continued support is appreciated. We are approaching the beginning of another membership year. If possible, please send check for dues prior to the Annual Meeting, to the museum - 6422 Main Street, Union, Illinois 60180. This will avoid confusion at the door of the Exhibit Hall. Individual - $2.00; Family - $5.00; Businesses - $15.00; Life memberships, paid at one time - $100.00.

We hope that both public and civic organizations will include the McHenry County Historical Society in their budgets yearly, so that renovation of the second floor of the museum can be started as soon as the first floor is completed.

Maintenance, light, water, heat and telephone should be paid entirely from income from dues. Ask your relatives, friends and neighbors to join THEIR historical society. Continuing financial support will go to complete three exhibit rooms on second floor, outside shutters over closed windows, new roof, 2 fire escapes, gutters, etc., and pay interest on loans from banks and savings and loans, all of which must be repaid in full within three more years.

Volunteer Cadre

Volunteers needed: No pay involved but the satisfaction that you are doing something to preserve the past as well as meeting new associates in what is called "life." The following project areas are in need of help:

1 - Clean typewriters.
2 - Help accession (catalog).
3 - Repair book bindings.
4 - Mend maps and papers.
5 - Write short historical sketches on people, buildings, cemeteries and landmarks.
6 - Typing.
7 - Mannequin "touch-ups."
8 - Carpentry, painting and small repairs assistance.
9 - Geneology research: Scan 1840-1850-1860 census, recording on family records for families listed.
10 - Person or persons to plan and operate an affair such as a "harvest day", "festival day" or "history-making day," etc.
11 - Person or persons to conduct craft classes on candle making, rug weaving, spinning and cider making. Wine and cider presses are available.

Aquisitions - Recent

Vacuum cleaner, circa 1880. A two-wheeled, "one-boiler" contraption, not guaranteed to work but to please the sight and intellect. Donor: R. G. Richardson, Richmond.

Civil War Flag carried in the Civil War by Roy Spencer, uncle of Helen Spencer Anthony and son of Calvin Spencer (founder of Marengo) presented to Kelley Bros. by Miss Sofronia Spencer. Donor: Mrs. Francis (Stanford) Muzzy, Marengo.

Cream Separator and Tin Canning supplies. Donors: Mr. & Mrs. Clinton Martin, McHenry.

Picture of George Washington hung on wall of Haligus School in 1910. Donors: Mr. & Mrs. William Davis, Huntley.

Hoover Vacuum - Model 300. Used in woodworking shop in Woodstock by George Frozley. Donor: Mrs. George Frozley.

Buck Saw used by George Frozley in his woodworking shop. Donor: Joseph Frozley, Woodstock.

Oliver Typewriter 10 Year Gold Pin presented to Charles Schmidt in 1912, father of donor: Harold Schmidt, Woodstock.

We cannot list all artifacts that have been donated recently due to lack of space. Future issues will mention others.

Donations are Tax Deductible

All donations to the historical society, financial or artifacts, are deductible for the year donated. Any questions concerning value of artifacts should be directed to the local office of the Internal Revenue Service in Woodstock.

To the Membership

In renovating the museum it was found necessary to remove all sinks and toilets and install ones approved by the State Fire Marshall. We have 8 sinks, cast iron-porcelain; 5 toilets; 1 urinal. Anyone interested in securing these please call the museum - dial 923 2267.

Mimeograph needed. If by chance your business, or anyone you know, has a mimeograph machine to replace, the society would appreciate the donation of the old one. Of course, we would accept a new one, which would also be appreciated. Tax deductible.

Addressograph needed. Our membership is increasing and we surely could use an addressograph to lighten our work load. Now that we are planning to mail a quarterly newsletter to our members, we could use one to advantage. We have the part to make the metal address plate, but not the machine that addresses the envelopes.

Typewriters needed. We have cards and reports that need to be typed every week. These are records we do not like to leave the files in the museum. Our Membership Secretary and volunteer typists could do this work in the museum office and valuable information would not need to be taken to their homes to complete.

Tracings to be Conducted

Woodstock City Park Fountain. Whereabouts of the city's cast iron fountain is sought. Rumor has it in someone's back yard. It was probably taken down prior to the erection of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Call 923 2267.

Edison Phonograph. Does anyone have or know where to find an Edison Phonograph with horn and cylinder discs? If so, call museum - 923 2267

Cameras. Old cameras are sought this month. Look in those attics, contact grandparents on this and then contact "you know who."

Set of Tools for use in Renovating Museum. New or used. We have many volunteers to repair donated artifacts and they must bring their own toolcase with them. Some come from quite a distance and it would be convenient to have a set on hand for use of all who are helping with the repair work. Again contact "you know who."

Custodian or Custodians needed for Museum Apartment. We have the apartment ready. A custodian and wife could move in any time. If you know anyone interested, have them call Dorothy McEachren at 338 1985 or 923 2267 or Ruth Cripe at 923 4105 and make an appointment for an interview.

We will be looking for you at the Annual Meeting on May 19, 1974 at 2 P. M. at the museum in Union. You will see the LARGE NEW SIGN in front which was made by the Parkway Signs, West Route 120, McHenry, and donated by the Marengo-Union Rotary Club.

McHenry County Historical Society
6422 Main Street
Union, Illinois 60180

Not-For-Profit Corporation
U. S. Postage
Union, Illinois
Permit No. 9

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